

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Please replace the third paragraph at page 4 (lines 19-23) with the following replacement paragraph:

Figure 1A-[C] B schematically depicts the amino acid sequence of human and rat IRAP. The N-terminal 109 amino acid fragment used to isolate TAP as an IRAP binding protein is indicated by bold underlining and the corresponding TAP-binding fragment in human IRAP is indicated by underlining. The amino acid sequences of human and rat IRAP are set forth as SEQ ID NO:1 and SEQ ID NO:2, respectively.